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LETTER DATED 27 JANUARY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government and with reference to the letter dated 22 July 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/1996/584), I have the honour to convey the following responses of my Government to the allegations made by Iraq in that letter:

1. Paragraph 1 (annex): The said outposts are abandoned and no military forces are stationed there.

2. Paragraph 2: The geographic coordinates referred to are incomplete; thus the case is not recognizable.

3. Paragraphs 3-7, 10 and 11: The allegations are unfounded and rejected.

4. Paragraph 8: The Iranian helicopter was flying over Iranian territory for the purpose of disembarking a Toyota vehicle and no violation occurred.

5. Paragraph 9: On 17 June 1996, Iranian forces in charge of combating smuggling arrested four Iraqis who had crossed the border and were fishing in Iranian waters. On 20 June 1996, they were released and returned to Iraq after judicial process was completed.

It would be highly appreciated if the text of the present letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kamal KHARRAZI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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